Am ndments to the Specification:

The section beginning at Page 1, lines 12-35, through to Page 2, lines 1-10 to be amended as follows:

–CO-PENDING APPLICATIONS

Various methods, systems and apparatus relating to the present invention are disclosed in the following co-pending applications filed by the applicant or assignee of the present invention simultaneously with the present application:

09/609,139,~~(NPA014US)~~ ~~(NPA023US)~~ 09/608,970,~~(NPA015US)~~ 09/609,039~~(NPA022US)~~, 09/663,579,~~(NPA024US)~~ 09/663,599,~~(NPA025US)~~ 09/607,852,~~(NPA026US)~~ ~~(NPA037US)~~ 09/607,656~~(NPA038US)~~, 09/609,132,~~(NPA041US)~~ 09/663,701,~~(NPA047US)~~ 09/663,640,~~(NPA049US)~~ 09/609,303,~~(NPA050US)~~ 09/610,095,~~(NPA051US)~~ 09/609,596~~(NPA052US)~~, 09/693,705,~~(NPA053US)~~ 09/607,843,~~(NPA063US)~~ 09/607,605~~(NPA065US)~~, 09/608,178,~~(NPA067US)~~ 09/609,553,~~(NPA068US)~~ 09/609,233~~(NPA069US)~~, 09/609,149,~~(NPA071US)~~ 09/608,022,~~(NPA072US)~~ 09/609,232~~(NPB003US)~~, 09/607,844,~~(NPB004US)~~ 6,457,883,~~(NPB005US)~~ 09/608,920~~(NPP019US)~~, 09/607,985,~~(PEC04US)~~ 6,398,332,~~(PEC05US)~~ 6,394,573~~(PEC06US)~~, 09/606,999,~~(PEC07US)~~

The disclosures of these co-pending applications are incorporated herein by cross-reference. ~~Each application is temporarily identified by its docket number. This will be replaced by the corresponding USSN when available.~~

Various methods, systems and apparatus relating to the present invention are disclosed in the following co-pending applications filed by the applicant or assignee of the present invention on 23 May 2000:

09/575,197~~(NPA001US)~~, 09/575,195~~(NPA002US)~~, 09/575,159~~(NPA004US)~~, 09/575,132~~(NPA005US)~~, 09/575,123~~(NPA006US)~~, 09/575,148~~(NPA007US)~~, 09/575,130~~(NPA008US)~~, 09/575,165~~(NPA009US)~~, 09/575,153~~(NPA010US)~~, 09/575,118~~(NPA012US)~~, 09/575,131~~(NPA016US)~~, 09/575,116~~(NPA017US)~~, 09/575,144~~(NPA018US)~~, 09/575,139~~(NPA019US)~~, 09/575,186~~(NPA020US)~~, 09/575,185~~(NPA021US)~~, 09/575,191~~(NPA030US)~~, 09/575,145~~(NPA035US)~~, 09/575,192~~(NPA048US)~~, 09/575,181~~(NPA075US)~~, 09/575,193~~(NPB001US)~~, 09/575,156~~(NPB002US)~~, 09/575,183~~(NPK002US)~~, 09/575,160~~(NPK003US)~~, 09/575,150~~(NPK004US)~~, 09/575,169~~(NPK005US)~~, 09/575,184~~(NPM001US)~~, 6,502,614~~(NPM002US)~~, 6,622,999~~(NPM003US)~~, 09/575,149~~(NPM004US)~~, 6,549,935~~(NPN001US)~~, 09/575,187~~(NPP001US)~~, 09/575,155~~(NPP003US)~~, 6,591,884~~(NPP005US)~~, 6,439,706~~(NPP006US)~~, 09/575,196~~(NPP007US)~~,

09/575,198 ~~(NPP008US)~~, 09/575178 ~~(NPP016US)~~, 6,428,155 ~~(NPP017US)~~,
09/575,146 ~~(NPP018US)~~, 09/575,174 ~~(NPS001US)~~, 09/575,163 ~~(NPS003US)~~,
09/575,168 ~~(NPS020US)~~, 09/575,154 ~~(NPT001US)~~, 09/575,129 ~~(NPT002US)~~,
09/575,124 ~~(NPT003US)~~, 09/575,188 ~~(NPT004US)~~, 09/575,189 ~~(NPX001US)~~,
09/575,162 ~~(NPX003US)~~, 09/575,172 ~~(NPX008US)~~, 09/575,170 ~~(NPX011US)~~,
09/575,171 ~~(NPX014US)~~, 09/575,161 ~~(NPX016US)~~, 6,428,133 ~~(IJ52US)~~,
6,527,365 ~~(IJM52US)~~, 6,315,399 ~~(MJ10US)~~, 6,338,548 ~~(MJ11US)~~,
6,540,319 ~~(MJ12US)~~, 6,328,431 ~~(MJ13US)~~, 6,328,425 ~~(MJ14US)~~,
09/575,127 ~~(MJ15US)~~, 6,383,833 ~~(MJ34US)~~, 6,464,332 ~~(MJ47US)~~,
6,390,591 ~~(MJ58US)~~, 09/575,152 ~~(MJ62US)~~, 6,328,417 ~~(MJ63US)~~,
6,409,323 ~~(PAK04US)~~, 6,281,912 ~~(PAK05US)~~, 6,604,810 ~~(PAK06US)~~,
6,318,920 ~~(PAK07US)~~, 6,488,422 ~~(PAK08US)~~, 09/575,108 ~~(PEC01US)~~,
09/575,109 ~~(PEC02US)~~, 09/575,110 ~~(PEC03US)~~

a1

The disclosures of these co-pending applications are incorporated herein by cross-reference. ~~Each application is temporarily identified by its docket number. This will be replaced by the corresponding USSN when available.--~~

The section beginning at Page 3, lines 20 through to Page 7, line 20 to be amended as follows:

--SUMMARY OF INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention, at least in the preferred embodiments, to overcome or ameliorate at least one of the disadvantages of the prior art, or to provide a useful alternative.

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According to a first aspect of the invention there is provided a system for providing printed information to a user, the system including:

a user printer module for interfacing the user with a first database containing first information, the printer module being responsive to the user requesting the first information from the first database for obtaining the first information and generating a first printed media that displays to the user the first information;

an identifier applicator ~~means~~ for applying an identifier to the first printed media such that designation of the identifier by th user results in the printer module generating a second printed media that displays to the user second information obtained from a second

database; and

memory ~~means~~ for storing account data indicative of either or both of: the number of times the first information is obtained from the first database; or the number of times the second information is obtained from the second database.

Preferably, the system includes:

a first server ~~means~~ of a first party for containing the first database, the first server ~~means~~ being accessed selectively by the printer module for obtaining the first information;

a second server ~~means~~ of a second party for containing the second database, the second server ~~means~~ being accessed selectively by the printer module for obtaining the second information; and

a calculation unit ~~means being~~ responsive to the account data for determining the quantum of a payment that is made by the user to one or both of the parties.

More preferably, the first and the second servers ~~means~~ are constituted by respective hardware and software. Alternatively, the first and second servers ~~means~~ include common hardware and/or software.

In a preferred form, the first party and the second party are separate legal entities and the account data is indicative of both the number of times first information is obtained from the first database and the number of times second information is obtained from the second database, wherein the calculation unit ~~means~~ is responsive to the account data for determining a financial debit to be applied by the first party against the second party.

In some embodiments, the printer module is provided to the user by a third party and the calculation unit ~~means~~ is responsive to the account data for determining a financial debit to be applied by the third party against the first party or by the third party against the second party. More preferably, the calculation unit ~~means~~ determines:

a financial debit to be applied by the third party against the first party in proportion to the number of times first information was obtained by the printer module from the first database; and

a financial debit to be applied by the third party against the second party in proportion to the number of times second information was obtained by the printer module from the second database.

Preferably also, the system includes a plurality of the printer modules and a

corresponding plurality of users and the calculation unit ~~means~~ is responsive to the separate memory ~~means~~ for determining the number of times in total that the first and the second databases are accessed by the printer modules.

In a preferred form, the system includes a calculation unit ~~means~~ responsive to the account data for determining the quantum of a payment to be made by the user to the first party. In other preferred embodiments, however, the system includes a calculation unit ~~means~~ responsive to the account data for determining the quantum of a payment to be made by the user to the second party. In still further preferred embodiments the system includes a calculation unit ~~means~~ responsive to the account data for determining the quantum of a payment to be made by the second party to the first party.

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According to a second aspect of the invention there is provided a system for providing printed information to a user, the system including:

a user printer module for interfacing the user with a first database containing first information, the printer module being responsive to the user requesting the first information from the first database for obtaining the first information and generating a first printed media that displays to the user the first information;

an identifier applicator ~~means~~ for applying an identifier to the first printed media such that designation of the identifier by the user results in the printer module generating a second printed media that displays to the user second information obtained from a second database;

memory ~~means~~ for storing account data indicative of either or both of: the number of times the first information is obtained from the first database; or the number of times the second information is obtained from the second database; and

payment determination unit ~~means being~~ responsive to the account data for calculating an access fee to be levied against the user for the use of the printer module.

Preferably, the payment determination unit ~~means~~ calculates the access fee as the balance of:

a predetermined periodic fee; and

a variable credit that is derived from the account data.

More preferably, the account data is a number and the variable credit is derived from a multiple of that number.

In a preferred form, the system includes account means for receiving a payment from the user when the payment determination unit ~~means~~ calculates a positive value for the access fee. More preferably, the payment determination ~~means~~ unit calculates the access fee periodically. Even more preferably, the printer module is disabled if the access fee is not paid by the user within a predetermined period from the calculation of the fee.

According to a third aspect of the invention there is provided a system for providing printed information to a user, the system including:

a user printer module for interfacing the user with a first database containing first information, the printer module being responsive to the user requesting the first information from the first database for obtaining the first information and generating a first printed media that displays to the user the first information;

an identifier database for supplying an identifier to the first printed media such that designation of the identifier by the user results in the printer module generating a second printed media that displays to the user second information obtained from a second database; and

an account database for storing account data indicative of either or both of: the number of times the first information is obtained from the first database; or the number of times the second information is obtained from the second database.

Preferably, the system includes:

a first server of a first party for containing the first database, the first server being accessed selectively by the printer module for obtaining the first information; and

a second server of a second party for containing the second database, the second server being accessed selectively by the printer module for obtaining the second information, wherein the account server is responsive to the account data for determining a financial debit that is applied by one or both of the parties against the user.

According to another aspect of the invention there is provided a system for providing printed information to a user, the system including:

a user printer module for interfacing the user with a first database containing first information, the printer module being responsive to the user requesting the first information from the first database for obtaining the first information and generating a first printed media that displays to the user the first information;

an identifier database for supplying an identifier to the first printed media such that designation of the identifier by the user results in the printer module generating a second printed media that displays to the user second information obtained from a second database;

an account database for storing account data indicative of either or both of: the number of times the first information is obtained from the first database; or the number of times the second information is obtained from the second database; and

a2

an account server for accessing the account database and being responsive to the account data for calculating an access fee to be levied against the user for the use of the printer module.

Preferably, the account server calculates the access fee as the balance of:

a predetermined periodic fee; and

a variable credit that is derived from the account data.--